



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/917,792	07/31/2001	Alan D. Gould	50442.010200	9535

22191 7590 06/08/2005

GREENBERG-TRAURIG  
1750 TYSONS BOULEVARD, 12TH FLOOR  
MCLEAN, VA 22102

EXAMINER
----------

ALVAREZ, RAQUEL

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

3622

DATE MAILED: 06/08/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/917,792

Applicant(s)

GOULD ET AL.

Examiner

Raquel Alvarez

Art Unit

3622

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 March 1995.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 and 26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 and 26 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

**DETAILED ACTION**

1. This office action is in response to communication filed on 3/16/95.
2. Claims 1-24 and 26 are presented for examination.

**Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112**

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

3. Two claims are numbered as claim 23. Correction is required.

**Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102**

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1-5, 8, 10-15, 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Von Kohorn (5,759,101 hereinafter Von Kohorn).

With respect to claims 1, 3, 8, 10, 11, 26 Von Kohorn teaches a method of conducting an incentivized trivia contest to increase the effectiveness of advertising (col. 44, lines 55 to col. 45, lines 1-5). Storing in a computer system a set of trivia questions relating to advertising content (col. 44, lines 55 to col. 45, lines 1-5); storing in said computer system a second set of trivia questions relating to show content (col. 2, lines 42-59); associating said first and second sets of trivia questions with a broadcast of said advertising content along with said show content (i.e. questions may be asked in

Art Unit: 3622

conjunction with the broadcast commercial and program (col. 3, lines 44-46, col. 16, lines 16-19 and col. 44, lines 55-62); selecting a subset of said first and second trivia questions to ask a member (Figure 28); transmitting said subset of trivia questions to said member and receiving said member's responses thereto via a communication medium (Figure 28, 842); scoring said member's performance in response to said subset of trivia questions (Figure 28, 838); providing incentives to said member based upon results of said scoring (Figure 28, 844).

With respect to claim 2, Von Kohorn further teaches storing data indicative of which advertising airs in conjunction with said broadcast (i.e. certain commercial may be aired for various product and/or services targeted or tailored to the viewing audience)(col. 3, lines 44-46 and col. 16, lines 16-19).

With respect to claims 4-5, Von Kohorn further teaches that the broadcast comprises radio broadcast and a network connection (col. 7, lines 11-34).

With respect to claim 12, Von Kohorn teaches a method of using a user profile to conduct a trivia contest (col. 135, lines 5-27). Storing in a computer system a set of trivia questions relating to advertising content (col. 44, lines 55 to col. 45 lines 1-5); storing in said computer system a second set of trivia questions relating to show content (col. 2, lines 42-59); associating said first and second sets of trivia questions with a broadcast of said advertising content along with said show content (i.e. questions may

Art Unit: 3622

be asked in conjunction with the broadcast commercial and program (col. 44, lines 55-62); selecting a subset of said first and second trivia questions to ask a member (Figure 28); storing in said computer system a demographic profile of at least one member (i.e. the respondent's gender, residence, income etc. is collected and stored in order to limit respondents to the desired groups)(col. 135, lines 5-27); using said demographic profile to select a subset of said first and second trivia questions to ask said member (col. 135, lines 5-27); transmitting said subset of trivia questions to said member and receiving said member's responses thereto via a communication medium (Figure 28, 842).

With respect to claim 13, Von Kohorn further teaches that the broadcast comprises radio broadcast and a network connection (col. 7, lines 11-34).

With respect to claims 14-15 Von Kohorn teaches a method of determining advertising performance and product placement (col. 44, lines 55 to col. 45, lines 1-5). Storing in a computer system a set of trivia questions relating to advertising content (col. 44, lines 55 to col. 45, lines 1-5); storing in said computer system a second set of trivia questions relating to show content (col. 2, lines 42-59); associating said first and second sets of trivia questions with a broadcast of said advertising content along with said show content (i.e. questions may be asked in conjunction with the broadcast commercial and program (col. 3, lines 44-46, col. 16, lines 16-19 and col. 44, lines 55-62); selecting a subset of said first and second trivia questions to ask a member (Figure 28); transmitting said subset of trivia questions to said member and receiving said member's

Art Unit: 3622

responses thereto via a communication medium (Figure 28, 842); and determining advertising performance and product placement based upon said member's answers to said subset of trivia questions (i.e. advertisement's performance is determined based upon member's recall to the questions related to the goods or services presented) (col. 44, lines 55 to col. 45, lines 1-5).

**Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103**

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 6-7, 9, 16-24 and rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Von Kohorn.

Claims 6 and 7 further recite wherein said network comprises an Internet connection. Von Kohorn teaches that the broadcast is via a network connection (col. 7, lines 11-34). Von Kohorn doesn't specifically teach that the network comprises an Internet connection. Official notice is taken that it is old and well known in the computer network arts to use Internet connection because such a modification facilitates communication around the world. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of Applicant's invention to have included for said network to have comprised Internet connection in order to obtain the above mentioned advantage.

Claim 9 further recites that the communication medium comprises a set-top box. Official notice is taken that set-top boxes are old and well known to be used to perform computing functions that don't require much computing power at a fraction of the cost of a full computer. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of Applicant's invention to have included a set-top box in order to obtain the above mentioned advantage.

With respect to claims 16-19, Von Kohorn teaches a method of the effectiveness of advertising (col. 44, lines 55 to col. 45, lines 1-5). Storing in a computer system a set of trivia questions relating to advertising content (col. 44, lines 55 to col. 45, lines 1-5); storing in said computer system a second set of trivia questions relating to show content (col. 2, lines 42-59); associating said first and second sets of trivia questions with a broadcast of said advertising content along with said show content (i.e. questions may be asked in conjunction with the broadcast commercial and program (col. 3, lines 44-46, col. 16, lines 16-19 and col. 44, lines 55-62); selecting a subset of said first and second trivia questions to ask a member (Figure 28); transmitting said subset of trivia questions to said member and receiving said member's responses thereto via a communication medium (Figure 28, 842); scoring said member's performance in response to said subset of trivia questions (Figure 28, 838); providing incentives to said member based upon results of said scoring (Figure 28, 844).

With respect to creating a report indicative of effectiveness of said advertising content based at least in part on said member's responses and demographic profiles. Von Kohorn teaches effectiveness of advertisements/commercials based on member's responses and maintaining demographic profiles on the members (col. 44 lines 55 to col. 45, lines 1-5 and col. 135, lines 5-27). With respect to preparing a report. Official notice is taken that it is old and well known to prepare a report on information gathered because such a modification would provide a detailed account of the information. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of Applicant's invention to have included creating a report indicative of effectiveness of said advertising content based at least in part on said member's responses and demographic profiles in order to obtain the above mentioned advantage.

With respect to claim 20, Von Kohorn teaches a method of conducting an incentivized trivia contest to increase the effectiveness of advertising content, determine advertising content performance, and determine show content performance (col. 135, lines 5-27). Storing in a computer system a set of trivia questions relating to advertising content (col. 44, lines 55 to col. 45 lines 1-5); storing in said computer system a second set of trivia questions relating to show content (col. 2, lines 42-59); associating said first and second sets of trivia questions with a broadcast of said advertising content along with said show content (i.e. questions may be asked in conjunction with the broadcast commercial and program (col. 44, lines 55-62); selecting a subset of said first and second trivia questions to ask a member (Figure 28); storing in said computer system a



demographic profile of at least one member (i.e. the respondent's gender, residence, income etc. is collected and stored in order to limit respondents to the desired groups)(col. 135, lines 5-27); using said demographic profile to select a subset of said first and second trivia questions to ask said member (col. 135, lines 5-27); transmitting said subset of trivia questions to said member and receiving said member's responses thereto via a communication medium (Figure 28, 842); ); scoring said member's performance in response to said subset of trivia questions (Figure 28, 838); providing incentives to said member based upon results of said scoring (Figure 28, 844).

With respect to using answers from the first and second sets of trivia questions to create a report indicative of effectiveness of said advertising content. Von Kohorn teaches effectiveness of advertisements/commercials based on member's responses (col. 44 lines 55 to col. 45, lines 1-5) . With respect to preparing a report. Official notice is taken that it is old and well known to prepare a report on information gathered because such a modification would provide a detailed account of the information. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of Applicant's invention to have included creating a report indicative of effectiveness of said advertising content based at least in part on said member's responses to the first and second set of trivia questions in order to obtain the above mentioned advantage.

With respect to claims 21-24, Storing in a computer system a set of trivia questions relating to content of a broadcast (col. 44, lines 55 to col. 45, lines 1-5); associating said first and second sets of trivia questions with a broadcast of said

Art Unit: 3622

advertising content along with said show content (i.e. questions may be asked in conjunction with the broadcast commercial and program (col. 3, lines 44-46, col. 16, lines 16-19 and col. 44, lines 55-62); transmitting said subset of trivia questions to said member and receiving said member's responses thereto via a communication medium (Figure 28, 842); scoring said member's performance in response to said subset of trivia questions (Figure 28, 838).

With respect to creating a report indicative of at least one broadcast performance factor comprising at least one recall, understanding and likeability and transmitting said report to a client. Von Kohorn teaches that the broadcast performance factor comprises recall, understanding and likeability of the broadcast content presented (col. 44 lines 55 to col. 45, lines 1-5 and col. 135, lines 5-27). With respect to preparing a report. Official notice is taken that it is old and well known to prepare a report on information gathered because such a modification would provide a detailed account of the information. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of Applicant's invention to have included creating a report indicative of effectiveness of said advertising content based at least in part on said recall, understand and likeability and transmitting the report to said client in order to obtain the above mentioned advantage.

### **Response to Arguments**

7. With respect to Applicant's arguments that Von Kohorn has nothing to do with increasing the effectiveness of advertising or determining advertising performance. The Examiner respectfully disagrees with Applicant because Von Kohorn teaches on col. 44,

lines 55 to col. 45, lines 1-5, questions directed to televisions advertisements or commercials in order to measure member's recall of the product or services being advertised.

8. Applicant argues that Von Kohorn doesn't teach a first set of questions relating to advertising content and a second set of questions related to the show content. The Examiner respectfully disagrees with Applicant because Von Kohorn teaches on col. 44, lines 55 to col. 45, lines 1-5, questions directed to televisions advertisements or commercials in order to measure member's recall of the product or services being advertised and questions related to show content on col. 2, lines 42-59.

9. Applicant argues that Von Kohorn doesn't teach associating said first and second sets of trivia questions with a broadcast of the advertising along with the show content. The Examiner respectfully disagrees with Applicant because Von Kohorn teaches on col. 3, lines 44-46 and col. 16, lines 16-19 that certain commercials may be aired for various product and/or services targeted or tailored to the viewing audience.

10. The office action has been made non-final in order to cite new portions of the Von Kohorn reference.

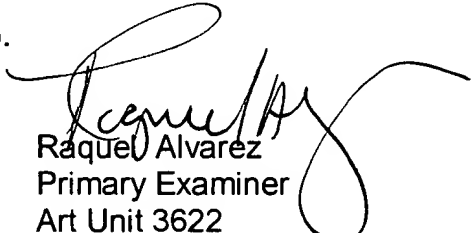
**Point of contact**

11. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Raquel Alvarez whose telephone number is (571)272-6715. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00-5:00.

Art Unit: 3622

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Eric w. Stamber can be reached on (571)272-6724. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Raquel Alvarez  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 3622

R.A.  
6/3/2005